

Remarks

With entry of this amendment, claims 1-9 and 12-51 are pending. Claims 8-9 and 12-51 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 10 and 11 have been canceled. Thus, claims 1-7 are under examination. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7, 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The applicant has amended the claims by changing the term "model non-human animal" to "mouse model". Further, "by disruption of either TLR2 gene or MyD88 gene" is added in the amended claim 1. The phrase "by the disruption of TLR4 gene" is added in amended claims 5-7. The amendments overcome the rejections stated by the Examiner.

The Examiner has taken the position that "the specification only describes mice with specific genetic modification, homozygous disruption of TLR2, TLR4 or MyD88, that exhibit the phenotype of unresponsive to a lipoprotein as a bacterial cell component. The specification fails to describe any other mouse with or without genetic modification that exhibits the same phenotype. Thus the structural functional relationship between the mouse model and the disclosed phenotype is missing. Therefore, the written description requirements is not satisfied."

Applicants have amended claim 1 to specify "by disruption of either TLR2 gene or MyD88 gene" and have amended claims 5-7 to include "by disruption of either TLR2 gene" to

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claims 5-7. By this amendment, it is believed that the Examiner's rejection is no longer applicable to the claims. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

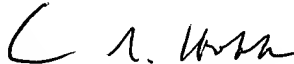
It is believed that the application is in condition for allowance, and Notice to that effect is respectfully requested. Should the resolution of any minor issues be necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is kindly invited to telephone the undersigned at the designated telephone number.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

A Notice of Allowance with claims 1-7 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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